

For Immediate Release
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**Senior Center Expanding
To serve more Boone County Residents
Groundbreaking Ceremony – January 28 – for New Building**

Beginning in October 2005, the Boone County Senior Center has been operating the R.C. Durr YMCA. Since then, the number of older adults has steadily grown (*a person turns 60 years old every seven seconds, nationwide*) and that means more people could benefit from having an enriching environment to spend leisure time. The Center is about to expand – with an all-new 3000 sq ft new facility – to be able to serve three times its current capacity. *A groundbreaking ceremony with State, County, and YMCA representatives will be Monday, January 28, at 2 p.m. at the R.C. Durr YMCA.*

“Our YMCA’s partnership with Boone County has been remarkable from the beginning. Not only have we successfully engaged senior adults in health and recreation services weekly, we have created multi-generational connections that benefit all ages. The success of our first step in senior service collaboration with Boone County leads us naturally to this exciting growth plan for expanded facilities to serve more seniors in the years to come. We know how important fellowship, fun, and wellness programs are everyday and are delighted to join with Boone County to expand these services for seniors,” says Sandy Walker, president of the YMCA of Greater Cincinnati.

Currently, serving nearly an average of 40 people per day, the Center offers, free of charge, social activities, fellowship, exercise, information & assistance, ballroom dancing, yoga, line dance, special events and meals for Boone County residents age 60 and over. Additionally, seniors can choose to join the “Y” through a variety of enrollment options including senior rates, scholarship or silver sneakers. The Center is open from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The new facility will be built as an expansion to the R.C. Durr YMCA at 5874 Veterans Way in Burlington, and will include a large kitchen, outside deck, activity rooms, and library area. Exercise activities will continue to be provided by the YMCA. Expected completion date is July, 2008.

The Boone County Senior Center is a public service to any older adult living in Boone. It is managed by the R.C. Durr YMCA. The Fiscal Court of Boone County through a Community Development Block Grant from the State obtained funding for the new facility.

"We are very proud of our partnership with the County, the older adults, the staff and volunteers of the YMCA, and excited to see the many benefits of this expanded center on our community," said Trisha Rayner, executive director of the R.C. Durr YMCA.

The YMCA is the largest non-governmental, non-profit community services organization in this area that is committed to helping everyone reach their God-given potential in spirit, mind, and body – regardless of their ability to pay. Each year tens of thousands of people from children to seniors are able to participate in YMCA programs and services because of financial assistance, including health and wellness, active older adult programs, youth and teen camp, swimming and water safety lessons, teen achievers, college readiness, and job preparedness. With 60 locations, the YMCA of Greater Cincinnati is also the largest provider of childcare programs that in 2007, served nearly 10,000 kids on YMCA scholarships. The annual Strong Kids Campaign helps make that possible.

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